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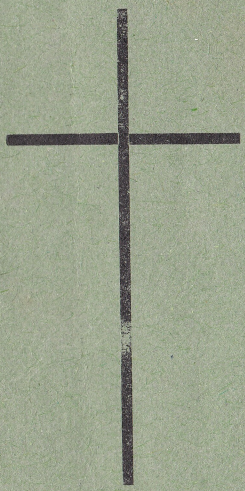
The Messenger



AUGUST, 1971

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T H E

M E S S E N G E R

*

In this issue:

--- Examination Success Stories

---- Pilots to start at Milnrow

---- Tod. Trip

---- Batting Boos

*

August

1971

Price 2p

Instead of the usual Minister's Message, we present this letter sent by our minister to our friends at Smallbridge on the accasion of their final service on July 11th 1971.

Dear Friends,

On behalf of St. Stephen's Congregational Church Milnrow, and Littleborough Congregational Church, greetings in the name of Jesus Christ.

The holding of your final act of worship will be a sad occasion for you all. To say good-bye to a place which has created and sustained so many fond memories is indeed an emotionally-charged experience. The thoughts and prayers of Congregationalists in Rochdale and throughout the county will be with you.

We can thank God humbly for the men and women He has raised up to work for His kingdom through your church at Smallbridge. Through their spiritual and material gifts they have been generous servants of the most High. It is no small feat to sustain the preaching of the word of God, to celebrate the sacraments, to teach the young, to care for the sick and elderly and for this work to have continued for over 100 years. The vast amount of prayer, of time, of voluntary effort that has gone into the continuation of Christian work cannot be estimated. Nor can we judge the fruits of all this sacrifice. It is God Himself who knows and acknowledges the sincerity and faith of His followers.

It may seem the end of the road for your buildings at Smallbridge. But Christianity never enters a cul-de-sac. The dispersion of your church into other fellowships can still bring enrichment of faith and experience.

May God be with you, not just to-day, but in all your continued work for Christ's Church.

Yours sincerely,

Glyn Jenkins

IN MEMORIAM

WILLIAM KING of 'The Waggon' Butterworth Hall, Milnrow, who died in Birch Hill Hospital on June 9th, aged 63. The service at St. Stephen's and Rochdale Crematorium was conducted on the 14th June by the minister. Our sympathy is extended to Mrs. Betty King, and the family.

*

MARGARET SELINA BRACEWELL of 12 Spencer Street, Littleborough, who died in Birch Hill on June 13th aged 80. The service at Littleborough Congregational Church and Shore Cemetary was conducted by the minister. Our sympathy is extended to Mr. R. Bracewell and the relatives.

*

THOMAS TRAVIS of 11 Hollingworth Road, Littleborough, who died suddenly on June 20th aged 73. The service on Friday 25th June, was conducted by the Revd. N. Whitehead. Our sympathy goes to Mrs. Travis and all the relatives.

*

ELIZABETH LONGLEY of 49 West View, Littleborough, who passed away at home on July 3rd aged 66. The service at Rochdale Crematorium on July 17th was conducted by the minister. Our sympathy is extended to her son and daughters and all the relatives.

*

EDGAR BRAUND of 85 Royds Street, Milnrow, who died suddenly on 13th July aged 77. The funeral was conducted by our minister on Monday 19th July. Mr. Braund was made a member of St. Stephen's in March of this year and he will be missed very much. Our sympathy goes to his sons Donald, Maurice and Harold and all the relatives.

*

FAMILY CHURCH READINGS

Theme: God's Continuing Work: Everyday Life

Aug. 1st: Eyes and no eyes Matt.11: 2-10
8th: The mystery of growth: Mark 4: 26-34
15th: True Friendship: John 15: 12-17
22nd: A very new town Rev.21: 10-11, 22-27
29th: An unexpected visitor: Luke 19: 1-10

****

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR TEACHERS

The results of the National 'Equipped to Teach' Course have come through from the Training and Mission Department, Livingstone House, London. The following teachers from our Rochdale Congregational Churches have passed:

PRELIMINARY COURSE

Mrs. J. Law	Littleborough Cong. Church
Mr. R. Gillon	St. Stephen's, Milnrow.

STANDARD COURSE

Mrs. C. Rothwell	St. Stephen's, Milnrow
Mrs. I. Collins	St. Stephen's, Milnrow
Mrs. D. Nunn	St. StephenIs, Milnrow
Mrs. S. Jenkins	St. Stephen's, Milnrow
Mrs. M. Howarth	St. Stephen's, Milnrow
Mrs. P. Royle	St. Stephen's, Milnrow
Mrs. D. Emmott	St. Stephen's, Milnrow

ADVANCED COURSE

Mrs. H. Vincent	Littleborough Cong. Church
Miss H. Seddon	Bamford Congregational Church
Miss H. Uron	Bamford Congregational Church

Nearly 80 Candidates have passed either the standard or advanced course, 19 of these coming from the Lancashire churches.

*

CONGRATULATIONS ON GRADUATION

To Mr. NEIL BRUCKSHAW of 2 New Street, Milnrow, who has been awarded the B.Ed. degree at Warwick University. (2nd class Honours.)

P&ERSONS P&EDGES

The Finance Committee announces that since the Every Person Canvas the amount pledged has increased by over £6 per week. This brings the total sum pledged by members and friends to £19 per week, but it is most important for our church budgeting that all concerned do their utmost to keep their pledges. Please do your best.

In case you ever need to know, by the way, the Finance Committee is elected by the Church Meeting and at present comprises The Minister; Mr. B. Clough (Treasurer); Mr. F. Whitworth (Free Will Offering Treasurer), Mr. D. Lynch (Finance Committee Secretary), Counc. I. Royle and Mr. R. Gillon (Financial Wizards).

****

G- MAN "SHOOTS" GUESTS AT GARDEN PARTY

Another "Gardening Party" was held on Saturday 10th July at 27 Harbour Lane, the home of Sir Les and Lady Whittaker. We were favoured with the glorious weather which we are beginning to take as normal this year and a large number of people attended to try their luck (sorry skill) at the various games and competitions.

If you were there it's more than likely that you had your picture taken by the man with the camera - Mr. Ron. Gillon. Ask to see the proofs and place your order (see number on reverse side.)

Postcard size....5p
Enlargements.....6p & 10p

A delicious afternoon tea was served and the event raised over £12 for the Ladies Guild.

Grateful thanks are expressed to all those who helped in any way to make this event so successful.

****

WORSE THAN HER BITE

A Music-lover entered a record shop and asked for the latest Bach recording. The young salesgirl asked: "Which one sir, Offen or Johann Sabastian?"

PILOTS START AT MILNROW

One day in the week beginning 20th September
Meeting time: 6.30 - 8.00 pm.

Age Group: 7-12 years, but older boys and girls may come in as Junior Officers.

CAPTAIN: Mr. J. Collins, 12 Raines Crest.

OFFICERS include: Mrs. M. Howarth
Mr. H. Mellor

PILOTS.....is a young people's organisation open to Junior Church Members. It is organised by the Congregational Church in England & Wales and is linked with the work of C.C.W.M.

ACTIVITIES..... include Badge Work, Recreations, Camps, Projects, Education, Games etc.

MM 71

The above title refers not to the new motorway but to this year's Michaelmas Market which will take place on Saturday November 13th from 2.30 p.m. The Chairman of Milnrow U.D.C. Counc. T.E. Jenkins will preside at the opening, and Counc. Edna Wood will perform the opening ceremony.

We understand from the M.M. Secretary Mr. A. Rae that plans are proceeding satisfactorily and the next committee meeting is planned for Monday, 23rd August at 7.30 p.m.

Arrangements have already been made to obtain goods from the following shops:-

E. Butterworth.....hardware
F. Gerrard.....electrical goods
Edwards, Chemist...Cosmetics, etc.
Newhey Co-op.....drapery & footwear etc.

CHURCH DUTIES - MILNROW

SIDESMEN FOR MORNING WORSHIP

Aug. 1st	Counc. I. Royle	Counc. J. Harrison
8th	Mr. J. Collins	Mrs. A. Collins
15th	Mr. L. Whittaker	Mrs. F. Rae
22nd	Mr. A. Bruckshaw	Mr. W. Holland
29th	Mrs. F. Butterworth	Mrs. L. Rawling
Sept.5th	Mrs. F. Whitworth	Mrs. J. Duffy

DEACONS ROTA

EVENING DOOR STEWARDS		PIANIST EVENING WORSHIP
Aug. 1st	Mrs. A. Wilson Mr. G. Whitworth	Mrs. E. Starkie
8th	Mrs. N. Settle Mrs. A. Whitworth	Mrs. C. Hey
15th	Mrs. A. Scaddon Mrs. E. Gillon	Mr. J. Emmott
22nd	Mr. B. Clough Mr. H. Whitehead	Mrs. E. Starkie
29th	Mr. J. Emmott Miss M. Wood	Mrs. C. Hey
Sept.5th	NO EVENING WORSHIP	

COMMUNION ROTA

Aug. 1st	Mrs. E. Gillon	Mr. A. Roberts
Sept.5th	Mrs. A. Scaddon (am)	Mr. K. Hey

FAMILY CHURCH COFFEE ROTA

Aug. 1st	Mrs. J. Cudworth	Mrs. N. Roberts
8th	Mrs. E. Busill	Miss I. Tither
15th	Mrs. Prestwich	Miss J. Kay
22nd	Mrs. H. Buckley	Mrs. E. Smith
29th	Miss M. Wood	Miss A. Clegg
Sept.5th	Mrs. J. Duffy	Mrs. F. Butterworth

COMMUNION TABLE FOWERS

Aug. 1st	Mrs. N. Settle	Mrs. J. Harrison
8th	Mrs. E.McDermott	Mrs. C. Wilkinson
15th	Mrs. R. Sandham,	Mrs.A.Collins,Mrs.P.Staff
22nd	Mrs. R. Wolfenden	
29th	Mrs. M. Millington	
Sept.5th	Mrs. A. Whitworth	

Persons unable to take their appointments as listed are expected to find a suitable substitute.

August		
Sun. 1st	11.00 am.	Revd. G. Jenkins
	6.00 pm.	"Local Liturgy"
Tues. 3rd	7.30 pm.	Ladies Guild - Mrs. E. Gillon
Sun. 8th	11.00 am.	Mrs. E. Gillon
	6.00 pm.	Counc. W.S. Edwards (Wardle)
Tues.10th	7.30 pm.	Coffee Evening 'MM Preview"
Sun. 15th	11.00 am.	To be announced
	6.00 pm.	Mr. A. Roberts
Wed. 18th	7.30 pm.	Deacons Meeting
Sun. 22nd	11.00 am.	To be announced
	6.00 pm.	Revd. G. Jenkins
Mon. 23rd	7.30 pm.	MM Committee
Wed. 25th	8.00 pm.	Church Meeting
Thurs.26th	7.30 pm.	Pilots Leaders' Meeting at 12 Raines Crest.
Sun. 29th	11.00 am.	Mr. A. Cooper (Castleton)
	6.00 pm.	Miss M. Burgess (Bury)
September		
Sun. 5th	11.00 am.	Rev. G. Jenkins (Communion)
		NO EVENING SERVICE

OFFERTORIES

May	Cash	Envelopes	Total
2nd	6.33	14.14	20.47
9th	6.01	12.94	18.95
16th	5.56	13.36	18.92
23rd	4.48	12.01	16.49
30th	6.06	14.66	20.72
June			
6th	4.65	21.27	25.92
13th	3.86	22.72	26.58
20th	1.41	7.80	9.21
27th	1.04	7.90	8.94

Membership Training Classes will be held on August 5th & 19th at 7.0 pm. at the Manse. Anyone interested are welcome (from both churches)

***

THE MINISTER and Family will be on

August

Sun. 1st	10.30 am.	Mr. J. Lord
Mon. 2nd	7.00 pm.	Deacons Meeting
	7.45 pm.	Church Meeting
Tues. 3rd	7.30 pm.	Ladies Guild (Birthday Supper)
Wed. 4th	7.30 pm.	Junior Church Teachers Meeting
Sun. 8th	10.30 am.	Revd. G. Jenkins
	6.00 pm.	" (Communion)
Sat. 14th- 21st		County Piolots Camp (Barnston Dale)
Sun. 15th	10.30 am.	Mr. T.L. Baxter (Radcliffe)
Tues. 17th	7.00 pm.	Coffee Evening (Viewing of Christmas Cards, etc.)
Sun. 22nd	10.30 am.	Rev. G. Jenkins
Wed. 25th	6.30 pm.	B.B's Cricket Match
Sun. 29th	10.30 pm.	Mr. A. Roberts (Milnrow)
Tues. 31st	7.30 pm.	Bring & Buy (Ladies Guild effort)

September

Sun. 5th		Closed for Holidays
Sun. 12th	10.30 am.	Rev. G. Jenkins (Family Communion)

****

COMMUNION TABLE FLOWERS

August 1st	Mrs. Marvelly
8th	Mrs. H. Leach
15th	Mrs. K. Hill
22nd	Mrs. C. Hill
29th	Mrs. Lightfoot
Sept. 5th	Church Closed
12th	Mrs. Cockroft & Mrs. Holt

****

OFFERTORIES

May 23rd	£7.33
30th	WHIT
June 6th	£18.15
13th	£16.74
July 4th	£13.05
11th	£12.98

holiday from August 9th - 16th

CHURCH DUTIES - LITTLEBOROUGH

SIDESMEN

Aug. 1st	Mr. Booth	Mr. Beattie	
8th	Mr. H. Hill	Mr. Nairn	10.30 am.
	Mr. E. Holt	Mr. F. Simpson	6.00 pm.
15th	Mr. Ingham	Mr. Brown	
22nd	Mr. Barker	Mr. Booth	
29th	Mr. Beattie	Mr. H. Hill	
Sept. 5th	Church Closed		
12th	Mr. Nairn	Mr. Ingham	

DEACONS COMMUNION ROTA

Aug. 8th	Mr. Nairn	Mr. Beattie
Sept. 12th	Mr. Griffiths	Mr. Simpson

COFFEE ROTA

Aug. 1st	B. Griffiths	P. Lightfoot
8th	B. Hartley	S. Moss
15th	D. Mallinson	A. Merrick
22nd	J. Law	K. Hill
29th	E. Booth	J. Simpson
Sept. 5th	Holidays	
12th	J. Hobbs	J. Horrige

****

FAMILY CHURCH READINGS

Aug. 1st	"Eyes and no eyes" Matt. 11: v1 - 10	Mrs. C. Hill
8th	"The mystery of growth" Mark 4: v26-32	Martin Law
15th	"True friendship" John 15: v12-17	Esther Bennett
22nd	"A very new town" Rev. 21: v10, 11, 22-27	Mrs. Lightfoot
29th	"An unexpected visitor" Luke 19: v1-6	Steven Moss
Sept. 12th	"An unusual party" Luke 14: v16-24	Mrs. K. Hill

HEBREWS WHO DIDN'T BREW

Nine people from Littleborough visited the South Manchester Hebrew Congregation on 14th July and joined a group of about 200 people to listen to an address by Rev. F. Carlebach M.A., who explained some aspects of the Jewish Religion. Most of the 1½ hour session was in question and answer form and all agreed that time had flown and a most informative evening had been spent.
Afterwards cool drinks and biscuits were served in the large hall adjoining the place of worship.

SMALL MERCIES

One of the stories we heard at the synagogue was of an old lady in hospital who had no time to ask God for anything; she was too busy thanking him for all the good he had done.

This story reminds the editor of something which a friend wrote in his autograph book when he was a little boy - "I complained about my shoes until I saw a man with no feet."

IN-COMING MALE

The July meeting of the Ladies Guild was addressed with humour and great interest by Councillor W.S. Edwards J.P., the village postman at Wardle.

He took us, in imagination, on his daily 10 mile tramp over the Wardle Moors, describing the farms and their history with tales also of the various characters who used to live there.

A vote of thanks was moved by Mrs. C. Hill and Mrs. Cockcroft played the piano. Forthcoming guild events include: a Birthday Supper (Aug.3rd) Bring and Buy Sale (Aug.31st), Jumble Sale (Oct. 15th).

BUSY BEES CRICKET MATCH

On Wednesday 25th August at 6.30 pm.
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And afterwards, mingle with the stars at "Moores Chippy" on Todmorden Road.

Everyone welcome - even children if they do not mock when dad gets a duck & mum a ton.

COFFEE EVENING

Tuesday 17th August at 7.30 pm.

Price 3p

There will be a display of:

Christmas Cards,
Birthday Cards,
Gift Cards,
Christmas Wrappings,
Christmas & Other Gifts.

This event is in aid of Junior Church Funds and the Young People will be selling the goods on display to raise money for the Autumn Fair.

Please give us your support.

TRIPPING WET

Not that it always rains on Junior Church outings but this year it did. This did not stop 50 people from enjoying themselves at Todmorden Park on Saturday 24th July for after all wet outings do have their own special something which we remember for years after with increasing nostalgia. For example, there must be something to be said in favour of those moist butties consumed from a bench in a leaky shelter in between intermittent attempts to play rounders or football. Well there is something to be said about it, isn't there? When you are young you can always enjoy yourself.

And what about those grown men with red faces, puffy cheeks, sweaty brows and soggy trouser seats. Can it really be fun for them? Of course it is, because they are really imagining themselves Billy Bremner toiling in the January mud of a mid season contest and what is more, deluding themselves into the belief that despite the receding hair-line and advancing corporation they are as fit as ever. (Well nearly). A great time was had by all.

****

PILOTS FAIL IN NAVIGATION

This is a malicious story and believe us we would not have repeated it if we had not been a bit short of news. The thing is this. Certain men of our church, to wit, M.T....., R.V....., W.G....., and a reverend gentleman who shall remain nameless, decided to take the Pilots to Hardcastle Crags last Thursday. The object of this exercise, presumably, was to make the Pilots into better pilots. The reality was that the 4 top pilots mentioned above got lost in their 4 motor cars on the way there.

Fortunately, the youngsters were able to make up for this inexemplary start and they led their puffing and blowing leaders to the top of the waterfall and laid a rope trail just to show how it should be done.

C.C.W.M.

THE LONELY HOUSEWIFE - SOUTH SEAS VERSION

"She is away from her own village life, a life of gathering wood, fetching water, working in gardens or fishing with her friends and relations who speak the same language. Now she may find herself next door to someone unknown, whose language, customs and outlook are different and of whom she may be vaguely afraid or suspicious. She has only a small house and garden and once her husband and children have gone off for the day she has only a little washing and tidying to do. How can she fill the rest of the day?

She has insufficient money to go shopping like her European counterpart and the sea is too far away for fishing so she packs her "dilly bag" of small possessions and goes off to visit a "ONE TALK" somewhere; someone who speaks her own language and is known to her. Then, because there is nothing else to do, they will probably sit down with some betel nut and play cards with some of the neighbours, precisely as her bored European sister used to play cards most of the day in the early beginnings of Port Moresby.

She is not used to a "cash economy" and finds it extremely difficult to budget. In the village, if there is a good harvest one eats plentifully but if it is a bad harvest one tightens ones belt. In the town one has to buy food and there are many other tempting goods to buy too. Because she has a house in a town her relations believe that she is rich and numerous relatives come to stay expecting to be fed and even having their return fare provided by their hostess as well. It is quite unthinkable in Papuan custom to refuse hospitality to ones relations."

.....From an article by Constance Fairhall in "Enterprise" Part 2 1971, on the problems facing town dwellers in Papua. Similar problems occur in Africa.

(2) ROCHDALE & DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE

One of the standard criticisms levelled at voluntary and charitable bodies is that some are doing a job which is already being tackled by other voluntary or charitable bodies. The result is that certain needy groups get a lot of help but equally needy groups are neglected altogether. The Rochdale and District Council of Social Service exists to tackle that problem.

They try, for example, to co-ordinate the various social service bodies. Their headquarters at Wrigley House in Drake Street provides office facilities and committee rooms for those bodies who wish to make use of them, A Social Workers Luncheon Club provides a monthly opportunity for social workers to discuss common problems. A quarterly magazine, "Contact" provides articles of local sound interest.

In addition the Council of Social Service tries to "fill in the gaps" by encouraging the formation of new organisations to cater for needs which have so far been neglected. For example in the last year they have helped to launch a Physically Handicapped and Able Bodied Club, a Multiple Sclerosis Society branch, a Cancer Relief Society branch and steps are now being taken to launch a Rochdale Marriage Guidance Council. Work is also undertaken in Community Development and there are also links with the Adult Education field.

Critics of the Council argue that there is a risk that it might become yet another voluntary body instead of a co-ordinate one. This is an ever present danger but it is up to those who run the Council to ensure that it does not become an end in itself. Another criticism is that it is too much geared for Rochdale and not enough for the Districts; a fair point but the fault probably lies mainly with the districts rather than the Council of Social Services itself.

ST. STEPHEN'S CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, MILNROW

and

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, LITTLEBOROUGH

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Tel: ROCHDALE 50161

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63 Shore Mount,
Littleborough.
Tel: ROCHDALE 79843

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24 Ladyhouse Close,
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Tel: ROCHDALE 41916

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